

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KOBAYASHI, S.
Appl. No.: PCT/JP01/03202
Filed: April 13, 2001
Title: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD,
AND RECORDING MEDIUM
Art Unit: Unknown
Examiner: Unknown
Docket No.: 0113184-066

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 37 C.F.R. 1.97, and 37 C.F.R. 1.98, Applicants request that a citation and examination of the references cited below, and on the attached PTO-1449 form, copies of which are enclosed, be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States patent.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Inventor</u>
5,267,154	11/30/93	Takeuchi, et al.
5,404,426	4/4/95	Usami, et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Document No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>
4-195476	7/15/92	Japan
5-61961	3/12/93	Japan
2000-3455	1/7/00	Japan

Document No. 4-195476 relates to a biological image information aiding system and a biological image forming method in which three-dimensional data corresponding to a standard shape of a biological article, standard motion thereof and a standard material feeling of an outer surface of the biological article are prepared, and a realistic three-dimensional synthesized image of an entire biological article can be formed.

Document No. 5-61961 relates to a system and device from interactive processing of computer animation which interpolates the motion of a hair curve obtained from the change of

representative number of hair from its initial shape to obtain realistic animation without depending on strict physical simulation.

Document No 2000-3455 relates to an information processor, information processing method and proving medium which prevents the feeling on the tips of hairs from being reduced.

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Chen, et al., "A system of 3D hair style synthesis based on the wisp model," The Visual Computer, Vol. 15, 1999, pp. 159-170.

Applicant looks forward to early and favorable consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

BY



Maurice E. Teixeira

Reg. No. 45,646

P.O. Box 1135

Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135

Phone: (312) 807-4250